

# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2021

## Hamburg Municipal Authority

PWSID # 3060035

ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACION MUY IMPORTANTE SOBRE SU AGUA POTABLE. TRADUZCALO O HABLO CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA BIEN. (This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.)



### WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION:

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets federal and state requirements. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your

water utility, please contact the Borough Office at 610-562-7821. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you would like to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. at the Hamburg Municipal Center located at 61 North Third Street.

### SOURCES OF WATER:

Our water sources are the Furnace Creek Reservoir, Wells 2, 3, 4, 6, & 7 located at the Furnace Creek Filtration Plant on Reservoir Road and Well 5 which is located at Upland Court, all of which are located in Windsor Township. The main storage tank has a finished water capacity of 1.154 million gallons. This contains at least an entire day supply of water in reserve.

### MONITORING YOUR WATER:

The Hamburg Municipal Authority routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a dependable water supply, we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are often reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

### DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS:

**Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

**Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter** - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter** - one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in

2,000,000,000 years.

**Action Level (AL)** – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**Maximum Contaminant Level** - The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal** - The “Goal”(MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**Treatment Technique (TT)** - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Minimum Residual Disinfectant Level** – The minimum level of residual disinfectant required at the entry point to the distribution system.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** – The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or exposed risk to health. MCLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

SAMPLING RESULTS						
<b>Chemical Contaminants</b>						
Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Trihalomethanes (ppb)	N	3.23	0-6.46	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (mg/l)	N	1.45	0.78-1.45	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (Five) (ppb)	N	1.64	0-3.27	N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
<b>Lead and Copper</b>						
Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation of TT? Y/N	90 <sup>th</sup> % Value	# of Sites Above AL	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead (ppb)	N	12 (6/2019)	1 out of 40	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Copper (ppm)	N	0.243 (6/2019)	0 out of 40	0	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

<b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides</b>						
Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Sample Date	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Dioxin (2,3,7,8-TCDD) (ppq)	N	1.6	7/12/17	0	30	Emissions from waste incineration and other combustion; discharge from chemical factories
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>						
Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Sample Date	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium (pCi/L) (a)	N	0.63	11/20/20	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Entry Point Disinfectant Residual</b>						
Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Lowest Level Detected	Range	Minimum Disinfectant Residual		Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	N	0.41 10/4/21	0.41- 1.21	0.2		Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>						
Contaminant (Unit of measurement)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Sample Date	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity (ntu)	N	0.237 (b)	12/21/21	0	TT= 2 ntu for a single measurement	Soil Runoff
		100%			TT= at least 95% of monthly samples ≤ 0.3 ntu	

**Footnotes:**

(a) pCi/L – picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

(b) Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. For Turbidity, the Treatment Technique (TT) depends on the type of filtration provided. Compliance is based on 95% or more of the total monthly samples being ≤ 0.3. Note: No single sample may exceed 2.0 NTU.

**EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:**

In addition to the contaminants listed in the chart above, the Hamburg Municipal Authority routinely tests for numerous contaminants, which were not detected. Water samples are tested monthly for bacteria, as well as quarterly for several Volatile Organic Contaminants (VOC's) and annually for several Inorganic Contaminants not listed in the table.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) detected five (5) observations in 2021 for the Hamburg Municipal Authority water system. These were attributed to late reporting. These observations did not impact your water quality in any way.

Hamburg's water supply comes from reservoirs and wells. As water travels over the land surface or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals (and in some cases, radioactive material) and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from stormwater run-off, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater run-off, or residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, stormwater run-off or septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production or mining activities.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. We are pleased to report the latest sampling did not detect any lead in your drinking water. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Hamburg Municipal Authority is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. MCL's are set at very stringent levels for health effects. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Please call our office if you have questions. We at the Hamburg Municipal Authority work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.